



Early Childhood & School Age Community Conversation Notes: February 14, 2024

Maggie MacDowell - Community Outreach Services:

- Thank you to Food bank for TGP gift cards for clients – these have been greatly appreciated by clients and make a big difference in allowing people to buy fresh foods and other items not available at the food bank.
- Trend: Financial burdens on people are continuing – people are struggling to catch up.
- Indoor Playgroup very busy with expanded baby section and equipment
- Baby & Me once a month at the JPL. Very well received and open to more collaboration with community group and COS.

Jodie Anderson, Out of School Care (OOSC) and Wildflowers Childcare

- Story Telling fundraiser on Feb 22nd at Inn Grill for Friend of Jasper Childcare Cost: \$20, doors open 5:30pm. Local story telling and silent auction.
- Currently have maximum enrollment for number of staff. Can offer position to those on waitlist soon.
- Summer fun registration will open around the beginning of May.
- OOSC for Kinder age also not open yet on full time basis. Space share available where parents can arrange.
- Trend: Many new positions offered are shared part time with other families. Less need for full time care.

Jo Ann Sherlow, Fitness & Aquatic Centre

- Trend: Seeing many who are not working accessing gym and the Soup for You program at the Activity Centre.
- Gym is consistently busy.
- Great turn out to the peaceful rally in support of Trans/Two-Spirit children's rights on Tuesday.
- Reflecting on the many other volunteer run/community events happening this week that show the engagement and strength of people in our community.
- Pool looking to open after renovations in third quarter of 2024.
- Indoor walking program 3 Days a week in Multi-purpose hall - FREE. Monday 10 am-12 pm, Wednesday 2pm-4pm, Saturday 11am-1.30 pm.

Cristin Murphy, Jasper Food Bank

- Food bank open 5:30-6:30 PM Thursdays in basement of Anglican Church. There is no need to line up – everyone will be served.
- Numbers continue to increase with record of 100-150 people accessing recently.
- Food bank can offer limited deliveries and offer monthly boxes.
- Food bank fundraiser concert was a success.
- Thank you to Metis Nation who have invited guests attending their conference in Jasper to donate to our food bank and will be collecting donations on-site at Forest Park Lodge.
- Trend: Reduced hours and seasonal layoffs continue to directly impact food security.
- [Coldest Night of the Year](#) Fundraiser coming up February 24th. Sign up to a local team or create your own and help raise funds for the Jasper Food Bank and Community Caring Fund. 100% of funds raised go directly to meeting and providing peoples basic needs in



Jasper: shelter, food and clothing. Option to walk 2 or 5 km with rest stops along the way serving hot chocolate. Community Soup Dinner sponsored by local restaurants will be held along with the Zumba warm up with Jhay.

- Currently 15 teams signed up for CNOY with a goal of 20. Currently at 25% of fundraising target.
- 10% of users accessing the food bank are under 18.
- *Question:*
Who can residents report unfair living or work conditions to? Especially relating to closed work permits/foreign workers on LIMA (Labour Market Impact Assessment) visas.
- *Suggested approach:*
Contact our local council. Counsellor Waxer said she would raise this topic with her colleagues.
- Contact our MLA (Member of the Legislative Assembly) Martin Long or his assistant Annette: 780 723 6068

Jenn Stolfa, Community member

- Elementary school board discussing options for making sure children have access to breakfast and healthy snacks.
- School support group has been fantastic.
- New school bus times mean children are arriving earlier than necessary; Would like to see the school bus schedule optimized for students.
- As the school bus service uses a public transit system there is currently no signage or indicators on the bus to make drivers aware to be cautious of children. Jenn has asked the Ministry of Education for information on the definition of a school bus vs public transit bus for this purpose and the safety of children in general.

Ryan Verge – AHS

- New drop-in/walk-in service available for mental health every Thursday 1-4:30PM. Clients may call in advance to set aside a time to come during this period to avoid potential wait.
- Encouraging people to continue to go through regular intake line and other channels for referral and ongoing care for mental health and addictions counselling.
- Please encourage clients to continue to call and ask about mental health services as this helps measure the need for more services in the community.

Kathleen Waxer – Council update

- Council asked admin to look into all considerations for Maligne Canyon bus route as recommended by Parks Canada, received presentation
- Derelict and empty properties in downtown core and residential areas of town. Commercial cap bylaw. To be discussed further in Strategic Planning session. Parks may have more authority to intercept with need to reside clause/fines.
- Paid parking 2023 revenue around 1 million. Year-round paid parking was not passed. Currently this is the only way visitors contribute to municipal operations.
- Council voted to advocate with AM leadership caucus to provide significantly more capital to build more space for childcare spaces.
- Kathleen as a resident: COS Playroom is sorely missed, playgroup is great but will not always capture families in need of an Outreach Worker and can be barrierred by children nap times.



Tor Begg – Community Outreach Services

- Teen team participating in Coldest Night Of the Year.
- Community helpers making emergency food boxes, organizing Pink Shirt Day campaign in Jasper Feb 28th - encouraging locals to take a photo of their participation in Pink Shirt Day and spreading kindness by tagging @Jasperteens
- Friday March 1st: Tae Kwon Do for teens
- Rec Room continues every Tuesday 7pm at the Legion.
- GSA teens creating a safe space for the upcoming school ball

Carla Gallop – Community Outreach Services

- Sunday Feb. 18th Family Day Movie at 3pm in Activity Centre basement.
- March 1st Beading with Matricia for KAOS
- Go Girl in Edson this year May 11. Open to ages 10-15yrs.

What do you think?

- ✓ [Engage Jasper – Jasper’s brand-new online engagement portal. It’s a place to share your ideas and provide feedback.](#)
- ✓ [Municipal public engagement opportunities](#)
- ✓ [Give feedback, contact council or report an issue.](#)
- ✓ [You can also contact council by emailing them.](#)

Promote your program or event:

- ✓ [Check the Community Calendar to find out what’s going on in Jasper.](#)
- ✓ [Add your program or event to the calendar.](#)

- ✓ **Share your passion:**
- ✓ [Fill out this form](#) and we will contact you to discuss your idea!

All things Community Conversations:

- ✓ [Community Conversations schedule and information](#)
- ✓ [Community Conversations most recent notes](#)
- ✓ [Register to join Community Conversations](#)
- ✓ [Municipal Community Conversations policy.](#)

Do you have neighbours or colleagues who are new to Jasper?

- ✓ The [New to Jasper page of the website](#) has helpful information for them.
- ✓ Welcome them to your neighbourhood using our [welcome bags](#).
- ✓ [Plan a neighbourhood gathering using our Neighbourhood Connections program.](#)

Contact:

Lisa Riddell, Community Development Manager
Municipality of Jasper | 627 Patricia St.
780-852-2100 | liddell@jasper-alberta.ca